GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3232
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
DEVELOPMENT OF NEW WATERWAYS
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is encouraging inland waterways which are cost effective as well as environment-friendly;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether there is any proposal by the Government to start or develop new waterways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING,ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (d): The Government is trying to make the existing three National Waterways fully functional by way of appropriate investment. Two Bills to declare

(i) Kakinada − Pondicherry stretch of canals, Bhadrachalam −Rajahmudry stretch of River Godavari and Wazirabad- Vijayawada stretch of River Krishna in the State of Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry, and

(ii) East Coast Canal integrated with Brahmani river and Delta of Mahanadi river in the State of Orissa and West Bengal as National Waterways have already been introduced in the Parliament and stand referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture. Proposal to declare Lakhipur-Bhanga stretch of river Barak as a National Waterway is also under consideration. After the declaration of these Waterways as National Waterways, necessary infrastructure will be created by Inland Waterways Authority of India.